



## purple ammannia

*Ammannia coccinea*

Kingdom: Plantae  
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta - flowering plants

### Features

Purple ammannia has more than one flower in each leaf axil. The flowers are tiny with four pink-purple petals. The leaves are opposite each other along the stem and are closely attached to it. They may be up to 10 inches long and one-half inch wide, but usually are much smaller. The stems may be up to three feet tall. The fruits are small, rounded capsules with tiny, yellow seeds that often are eaten by waterfowl.

### Natural History

Purple ammannia grows in wet, often sandy, open soil such as that found along the edges of lakes and ponds and in wet meadows. It is common in the southwest part of the state and infrequent to rare elsewhere.

### Habitats

natural lakes and prairie marshes; constructed lakes, ponds, and reservoirs; wet prairies and fens

### Iowa Status

uncommon; native

### Iowa Range

scattered throughout Iowa in suitable habitats

### Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.  
*Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats* CD-ROM.